

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 SANTIA 02513 052315Z  
ACTION SNM-05

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 L-03 ARA-10 /019 W  
-----002929 052320Z /65  
R 052057Z APR 78  
FM AMEMBASSY SANTIAGO  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8787

C O N F I D E N T I A L SANTIAGOS 2513

STADIS//////////

E.O. 11652: GDS  
TAGS: SNAR, CI  
SUBJ: ALLEGED STATE RESTRICTION OF DEA

REF: (A) STATE 83084 (B) SANTIAGO 9541 (C) 77 SANTIAGO 7457

1. EMBASSY DOUBTS THAT CONGRESSMAN WOLFF'S STATEMENTS ON STATE DEPARTMENT RESTRAINTS ON DEA RELATE TO CHILE'S PROGRAM. THE NARCOTICS PROGRAM HERE IS ONE OF THE FEW BRIGHT SPOTS IN US/GOC RELATIONS. THERE HAS BEEN A VERY SHARP REDUCTION IN NARCOTICS (ALMOST TOTALLY COCAINE) ACTIVITY IN CHILE OVER THE PAST FOUR YEARS. CHILE IS NOT NOW A MAJOR PROBLEM COUNTRY. THERE IS CLOSE GOC/DEA COOPERATION. CONGRESSMAN WOLFF'S SELECT COMMITTEE ON NARCOTICS ABUSE AND CONTROL IN ITS NOVEMBER 1977 REPORT OF HIS SOUTH AMERICAN STUDY MISSION NOTED THE GOOD WORKING RELATIONSHIP AND APPLAUDED THE SUCCESSFUL CHILEAN NARCOTICS ERADICATION EFFORT.

2. WHILE WE DO NOT EXPECT CHILE RELATED COMPLAINTS, THERE ARE THREE POSSIBLE AREAS IN WHICH SOME DEA PERSONNEL, HERE OR IN WASHINGTON, MAY FEEL THAT THEY HAVE BEEN RESTRAINED:

- THE MANSFIELD AMENDMENT PROHIBITS DEA OFFICERS  
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FROM JOINING IN THE ACTUAL POLICE OPERATIONS OF THE HOST COUNTRY. WITH THE FULL COOPERATION OF LOCAL DEA PERSONNEL, WE HAVE INSISTED THAT THE SPIRIT AS WELL AS THE LETTER OF THE LAW BE OBSERVED IN THIS HUMAN RIGHTS SENSITIVE COUNTRY.

- SHORTLY AFTER THE 1973 MILITARY COUP, THE GOC

SUMMARILY EXPELLED TWENTY TOP NARCOTICS TRAFFICKERS TO THE UNITED STATES FOR PROSECUTION. EITHER BECAUSE OF LACK OF EVIDENCE OR PLEA-BARGAINING, MANY RECEIVED SHORTER SENTENCES THAN THE GOC HAD EXPECTED. MOST ARE NOW FREE OR OUT ON PAROLE AND AT LEAST ONE HAS MADE THREATS AGAINST THE LIVES OF GOC OFFICIALS. THE GOC HAS REFUSED TO TAKE ANY BACK INTO CHILE. BECAUSE OF BAD FEELINGS GENERATED BY THIS EPISODE, AS WELL AS OUR CONCERNS REGARDING DUE PROCESS AND HUMAN RIGHTS, WE HAVE ARGUED THAT FURTHER REMOVAL OF CHILEAN TRAFFICKERS TO THE UNITED STATES BE DONE BY EXTRADITION RATHER THAN EXPULSION (REFTEL C). WE UNDERSTAND THAT DEA AND OTHER INTERESTED AGENCIES ARE ON BOARD, BUT THERE IS A POSSIBILITY THAT THIS CONSTITUTES, FOR SOME, AN INSTANCE OF EMBASSY RESTRAINT ON DEA ACTIVITIES.

- AS A GENERAL RULE AT THIS POST, SUBSTANTIVE CONTACTS WITH CABINET-LEVEL OFFICIALS ARE CARRIED OUT BY THE AMBASSADOR OR DCM, UNLESS THERE IS A GOOD AND APPROVED REASON FOR OTHER OFFICIALS TO HOLD SUCH MEETINGS. THIS POLICY APPLIES TO DEA AS WELL AS OTHER AGENCIES AND

OFFICES. TO OUR KNOWLEDGE IT HAS NOT CONSTITUTED A RESTRAINT.

3. WITH RESPECT TO MISSION COOPERATIVE EFFORTS TO ACHIEVE  
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NARCOTICS CONTROL GOALS, REF B CONVEYS OUR BELIEF THAT THE EMBASSY NARCOTICS COMMITTEE FULFILLS AN IMPORTANT ROLE IN COORDINATING, IMPLEMENTING AND MONITORING THE OVERALL NARCOTICS EFFORT AND ENSURES THAT IT FITS INTO THE OVERALL USG OBJECTIVES IN CHILE.  
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## Message Attributes

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**Decaption Date:** 20 Mar 2014  
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**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
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**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 20 Mar 2014  
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